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for the members of the Society by the "Summaries of Progress" that have been given from time to time. The necessary brevity of such a exposition is a shortcoming; but possibly even this may guide the reader to the book. The whole discussion illustrates most brilliantly the method of approximation seen in physiological analysis at its best.

The Problem of Fertilization, by F. R. Lillie. 278 pages, University of Chicago Press, 1919. Price $1.75 net.

APPLIED EUGENICS

Popenoe and Johnson have undertaken in this book to magnify the application of the principles of genetics to human society rather than to discuss at length the biological foundations of inheritance.

In the study of human biology we are quite disposed to ignore the fact that we cannot always judge the germ plasm of an individual by his own personal accomplishments. The authors impress well the fundamental fact that we must get a germinal rather than a mere cultural basis for human improvement, if we would encourage the production of superior and discourage that of inferior persons. A eugenically superior person is defined as one "who has, to a greater degree than the average, the germinal basis of the following characteristics:—to live past maturity, to reproduce adequately, to live happily and to make contributions to the productivity, happiness, and progress of society."

The authors leave to others the statement of the problems of genetics underlying eugenics, and concern themselves much more largely in consequence with the applied aspects of the question The chapter headings sufficiently indicate the thoroughness with which the subject is presented: Nature or Nurture? Modification of the Germ Plasm; Differences among Men; Inheritance of Mental Traits; Laws of Heredity; Natural Selection; Origin and Growth of the Eugenic Movement; Desirability of Restrictive Eugenics; The Dysgenic Classes; Methods of Restriction; Improvement of Sexual Selection; Increasing the Marriage Rate of the Superior; The Color Line; Immigration; War; Genealogy and Eugenics; The Eugenic Aspect of such Specific Reforms as Taxation, Rural Movement, Democracy, Socialism, Child Labor, Compulsory Education, Vocational Guidance and Training, Minimum Wage, Mother's Pensions, Housing, Feminism, Sex Hygiene Movement, Trades Unionism, Prohibition, and the like; Religion and Eugenics; Eugenics and Euthenics.

This book is a thoroly well organized and well-reasoned contribution to a subject of immense importance and timeliness. It is sure to be much used.

Applied Eugenics, by Paul Popenoe and R. H. Johnson, 459 pages. The Macmillan Conpany, 1918.

THE CAUSES AND COURSE OF ORGANIC EVOLUTION

The last few years have seen a revival of interest in the task of furnishing a statement of the problems and progress of general evolution. While perhaps none of these except that of Osborne makes a notably original contribution to this synthesis, no such attempt is ever without great interest to the student of life.

The author of the book under review calls it a "Study in Bioenergics." He says that *energy*, *continuity*, and *evolution* may be considered the triune key-note of the volume. His early chapters have to do with "Ether and Energy in Evolution of Matter," "Relation of Inorganic to Organic Bodies," "Relations and Transformations of Energy," and "Energies of the Organic World."

In the spirit of this idea that evolution is to be conceived primarily as transformations of energy in relation to ether, the author undertakes to arrange an ascending series of energies under the two heads of inorganic (crystalloid) energies and organic (or colloid). Under the former he grades heat, light, chemical activity, and electricity as progressive manifestations, and he deems the physical states of matter—gaseous, liquid, viscous, and solid—as parallel with, and the result of, these progressive transformations in energy. Between the inorganic and organic he conceives a "transition" energy which he calls "duplo-electric." The distinctive organic energies he names biotic, cognitic, cogitic, and spiritic. Parallel with the evolution of these types of energy we have the specialized manifestations of matter in the ascending scale of living objects, as protoplasmic, nuclear-chromatin, and nerve cell substance ("neuratin"). Later in the volume the author gives specific chapters to the discussion of what he conceives to be the essential nature of each of these, their relation to one another and to the "inorganic energies" of heat, light,